

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Scott Andruss, 18, Madison, pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Madison to conspiracy to violate the Hobbs Act. Andruss pleaded guilty to conspiring with Curtis Langlois to commit armed robberies of businesses using handguns and knives, and threatening physical violence to persons during the course of the robberies.

The conspiracy lasted from April 2008 through May 9, 2008, and involved armed robberies of the following businesses along the East Washington Avenue corridor in Madison:

- a. Red Letter News located at 2528 East Washington Avenue;
- b. Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel located at 3841 East Washington Avenue;
- c. Red Roof Inn located at 4830 Hayes Road; and
- d. PDQ located at 4202 Milwaukee Street.

At today's plea hearing, the government established that Andruss used a BB gun to rob the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel on May 5, 2008, and a knife to rob the Red Roof Inn on May 8, 2008. According to the government, Langlois's role was to case the hotel

lobbies prior to the robberies and to act as the getaway driver. Andruss's role was to commit the actual robberies, which he did while wearing a red bandana over his face and carrying a weapon.

Langlois pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge on July 31, 2008, and agreed to cooperate with the government and testify against Andruss.

Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled Langlois's sentencing for September 29, 2008, at 1:20 p.m, and Andruss' sentencing for October 28, 2008, at 1:20 p.m. Both Langlois and Andruss face a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison.

The charges against Langlois and Andruss were the result of an investigation conducted by the Madison Police Department. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel J. Graber.

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